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OO RUEHCHI RUEHDT RUEHHM RUEHNH
DE RUEHGO #1181 3510923
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 170923Z DEC 07
FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6936
INFO RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUCNASE/ASEAN MEMBER COLLECTIVE
RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0767
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 4314
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 7858
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 5418
RUEHCHI/AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI 1278
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1210
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L RANGOON 001181

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DEPT FOR EAP/MLS, DRL, AND IO
PACOM FOR FPA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/16/2017
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [BM](#)
SUBJECT: BURMESE REGIME NOT TALKING

REF: A. RANGOON 1148

[1](#)B. RANGOON 1165

Classified By: P/E Poloff Chelsia Wheeler for Reasons 1.4 (b) & (d)

[1](#)1. (C) Summary. Aung San Suu Kyi's personal physician, Dr. Tin Myo Win (Douglas), said that no meetings between Aung San Suu Kyi and Minister of Relations Aung Kyi have taken place since November 19. Rather than create a real dialogue, the government has preoccupied itself with the visa ban and mounting economic sanctions. End Summary.

[1](#)2. (C) In a meeting with Poloff on December 17, Aung San Suu Kyi's personal physician Dr. Tin Myo Win said that no meetings between Aung San Suu Kyi and Minister of Relations Aung Kyi have taken place since November 19. Although the regime initially indicated meetings would take place weekly, they have not occurred. Douglas said that absent further meetings, any chance for real dialogue has become remote as Aung San Suu Kyi's January 4 deadline for a joint statement draws near.

[1](#)3. (C) Douglas also noted that, in the government's December 3 press conference, Minister of Information Kyaw Hsan claimed that Aung San Suu Kyi had not responded to Than Shwe's request that she give up her support for sanctions in order to initiate dialogue. Douglas said that Aung San Suu Kyi had responded to the statement through Aung Kyi, telling him that she had never called for sanctions specifically and she had no power to lift them. In addition, she told Aung Kyi that she supported national reconciliation, as does everyone in Burma. Douglas offered his opinion that the Burmese government was more concerned about the visa ban and economic sanctions than creating meaningful dialogue (ref a). He also alleged that Aung Kyi's daughter is studying in the U.S. or the UK (he did not know which), giving Aung Kyi a personal interest in having the visa ban lifted.

Comment

[1](#)4. (C) Not only has the regime failed to follow through with regular meetings with Aung San Suu Kyi, they have not eased the restrictions on access to her. She has met only once

with the NLD uncles. No one else has been allowed to meet her. This does not look like any meaningful dialogue to us. Instead it appears Than Shwe did the minimal possible to avoid ASEAN criticism and then stopped. End Comment.
VILLAROSA